

### REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office action mailed August 4, 2006, and would like to thank Examiner Dunwoody for the allowance of claims 12-22. In response to the Office action, Applicants have amended claim 1, and canceled claim 23. At least for the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully traverse the foregoing rejections. Further, Applicants believe that there are also reasons other than those set forth below why the pending claims are patentable, and reserves the right to set forth those reasons, and to argue for the patentability of claims not explicitly addressed herein, in future papers. Accordingly, claims 1-22, and 24-26 remain pending in this application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the following remarks.

#### Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-11 and 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner prefers that items functionally recited and not positively claimed be referred to as 'for use in'. Accordingly, Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly claim a sub-combination by including 'for use in'.

#### Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,585,602, *Cermak et al.*

The above rejection is respectfully traversed in light of the amendments presented herein. Applicants assert that Cermak does not anticipate claim 23. However, this claim has been canceled to expedite prosecution.

Independent claim 1 is patentable over Cermak. For example, independent claim 1 teaches "a second stabilizing member joining the plurality of plunging convolutes and the grease catching member." This feature is not found in Cermak. Claims 24 and 25 depend from independent claim 1. Applicants note that these claims teach independently patentable subject matter, although they are also patentable by simple virtue of their dependency.

Claim 26 depends from independent claim 12, which the Examiner has allowed. Accordingly, Claim 26 is patentable over the prior art. Thus, as indicated by the Examiner, the application is now in condition for allowance.

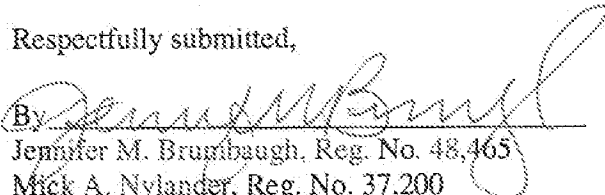
Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, the pending application is in condition for allowance. If, however, there are any outstanding issues that can be resolved by telephone conference, the Examiner is earnestly encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative.

Applicants believe no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 07-1360, under Order No. G00342/US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw. To the extent necessary, a petition for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 is hereby made, the fee for which should also be charged to this Deposit Account.

Dated: November 6, 2006  
(the 4<sup>th</sup> falling on a Saturday)

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Jennifer M. Brunbaugh, Reg. No. 48,465  
Mick A. Nylander, Reg. No. 37,200  
GKN Driveline North America, Inc.  
3300 University Drive  
Auburn Hills, Michigan 48326-2362  
(248) 377-1200